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09/688,854	10/16/2000	Rick Rowe	IGTECH.0009P	1791

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/688,854

Applicant(s)

ROWE ET AL.

Examiner

Namitha Pillai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-8 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,005,571 (Pachauri).

Referring to claim 1, Pachauri discloses a method for configuring a graphical user interface capable of displaying a set of navigation selectable elements (column 3, lines 7-9). Pachauri also discloses using a form of user identification, such as the roles assigned to a user, and determining a user profile from this user identification (column 2, lines 27-33). Pachauri also discloses determining the navigation selectable elements from a set of navigation selectable elements, which the graphical user interface is capable of displaying to the user permitted to view in accordance with the user profile (column 1, lines 47-53). Pachauri also discloses that these navigation selectable elements will only be disclosed to the user who has been assigned the roles relating to the task groups (column 3, lines 19-21).

Referring to claim 2, Pachauri discloses that the navigation selectable elements include container elements (Figure 12).

Referring to claim 4, Pachauri discloses that the navigation selectable elements are arranged in a hierarchical format (Figure 12).

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Referring to claim 5, Pachauri discloses including the step of displaying one or more of the navigation selectable elements as buttons (column 9, lines 3-11).

Referring to claim 6, Pachauri discloses including the step of displaying the navigation selectable elements in a tree form (Figure 12).

Referring to claim 7, Pachauri discloses including the step of displaying the displayed navigation selectable elements in a form dependent upon the user profile (column 1, lines 17-20).

Referring to claim 8, Pachauri discloses that the user profile is associated with a device, which displays the graphical user interface (column 1, lines 47-53).

Referring to claim 10, Pachauri discloses a method for configuring a graphical user interface capable of displaying a set of navigation selectable elements (column 3, lines 7-9).

Pachauri discloses that the navigation elements have a predetermined order (Figure 12).

Pachauri also discloses using a form of user identification, such as the roles assigned to a user, and determining a user profile from this user identification (column 2, lines 27-33). Pachauri also discloses determining the navigation selectable elements from a set of navigation selectable elements, which the graphical user interface is capable of displaying to the user permitted to view in accordance with the user profile (column 1, lines 47-53). Pachauri also discloses that these navigation selectable elements will only be disclosed to the user who has been assigned the roles relating to the task groups (column 3, lines 19-21).

Referring to claim 11, Pachauri discloses that the navigation selectable elements are arranged into one or more levels with the access point comprising of one of the levels (Figure 12 and column 2, lines 31-33).

Referring to claim 12, Pachauri discloses that certain tasks in the hierarchy are displayed to the user. Hence, there are other tasks, which are levels higher than those assigned with which the access point is associated that are not accessible to the user (Figure 12, column 2, lines 27-33).

Referring to claim 13, Pachauri discloses including the steps of determining a configuration for the navigation selectable elements based upon the user profile and displaying the navigation selectable elements in accordance with the configuration (column 2, lines 27-33 and column 3, lines 7-8).

Referring to claim 14, Pachauri discloses including the steps of determining if the user is restricted from viewing one or more of the navigation selectable elements based upon the user profile and preventing the display of those elements (column 2, lines 31-34).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pachauri and U. S. 6,385,652 B1 (Brown et al.).

Referring to claim 3, Pachauri does not disclose that the navigation selectable elements are application-initiating elements. Brown discloses application-initiating elements through an applications menu (column 9, lines 36-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to modify Pachauri's invention such that the navigation

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selectable elements are application-initiating elements. Pachauri does disclose an invention wherein users would use navigation elements to access certain functions to carry out the request of users. Processes including manufacturing and payroll require access to applications that can carry out the functions requested by the user. Hence, one skilled in the art would be motivated to learn from Brown to implement navigation selectable elements that are application-initiating elements to allow access to functional applications.

3. Claims 9 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pachauri and U. S. Patent No. 5,531,441 (Dabrowski et al.).

Referring to claims 9 and 15, Pachauri discloses a graphical user interface that is associated with an application (column 3, lines 7-8). Pachauri's invention is not associated with a gaming device. Dabrowski discloses a gaming system including a gaming device for accepting a wager by a player, presenting a game and awarding a player for predetermined winning events (column 3, lines 30-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to modify Pachauri's invention such that the graphical user interface included one for a gaming system. Pachauri discloses configuring a graphical user interface for displaying steps that a certain user is allowed to perform during a process. It is possible that this process is related to the steps needed for the users to work with a gaming system. Hence, one skilled in the art would be motivated to learn from Dabrowski and implement succinct steps that are associated with a game.

4. Claims 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabrowski and Brown.

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Referring to claim 17, Dabrowski discloses a gaming system including a gaming device (column 3, lines 30-33). Dabrowski does not disclose a computing device with user workstations with a graphical user interface. Brown discloses a computing device with a plurality of user stations associated with a system for displaying information and for providing input to the computing device (column 2, lines 25-29 and column 3, lines 24-25). Brown also discloses a graphical user interface for displaying the information with a main window having a navigation view port displaying navigation selectable elements that are application initiating elements (column 9, lines 30-40). Brown also discloses a data view port arranged to display information associated with an application initiated by selection of one of the application initiating elements (Figure 18a). Brown also discloses that the graphical user interface is adapted to display the navigation selectable elements in a plurality of configurations dependent upon a configuration of a station on which the graphical user interface is displayed or a user profile (column 9, lines 3-10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to modify Dabrowski's invention such that there was a computing device system with the graphical user interface. Dabrowski's gaming system can be implemented in association with a computing device to allow users from various workstations to access the game. With such a computing device, a display would need a graphical user interface that allows for both consistency and security as far as what the user's actions can be during a process of the game. Providing a navigation window and data window appearing during each step of the game can attain the consistency. The security can be attained by providing a different configuration to different users of the elements allowing access to certain aspects of the game based on the user's background. Hence, one skilled in the art would have been motivated, at the time of the

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invention to learn from Brown to implement such a computing system to gain more users who could access such a gaming system from various locations.

Referring to claim 18, Dabrowski discloses one of the user stations would have a touch-sensitive display and wherein the graphical user interface is adapted to display the navigation selectable elements as user-selectable buttons (Figure 2-5 and column 5, lines 43-52).

Referring to claim 19, Brown discloses by depicting the various possible workstations of this system that a mouse and keyboard are included (Figure 6 and column 5, lines 8-9) and that the graphical user interface is adapted to display the navigation selectable elements in a tree form (column 9, lines 36-40 and column 7, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 20, Dabrowski discloses that the graphical user interface is associated with a gaming system accounting system (column 5, lines 60-63).

Response to Claim Changes

5. The Examiner acknowledges Applicant's cancellation of claim 16.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 6/23/2003 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

With respect to Applicant's arguments, that Pachauri does not disclose a method for configuring a graphical user interface differently based upon a user. Pachauri clearly discloses the intention of creating user profiles based on task groups, and giving access to database components based on these profiles, wherein the systems can be business related systems such as taxes, payroll and inventory, wherein the database is included in the system but a visualization means is clearly needed if a user is to manipulate these databases (column 1, lines 15-27).

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Furthermore, as seen in Figure 12, task groups are created and then a column is set for "DISPLAY", wherein the components marked within these task groups would be displayable and hence, the user profiles that are based on these task groups and the users falling under these user profiles would be able to access the information and be shown the components under "DISPLAY".

With respect to Applicant's arguments, that Pachauri does not disclose each user has a user profile and a particular set of configuration of navigation element displayed based on the profile. Pachauri discloses displaying certain elements based on the task group, wherein these task groups describe functional roles that are assigned to users, wherein the user profile is based on these assigned roles, and hence the displayed elements would then be based on these task groups that fit the user and the user's profile (Figure 12 and column 2, lines 27-32).

With respect to Applicant's arguments, that Pachauri does not disclose arranging navigation selectable elements into levels or the particular type of navigation selectable elements which are displayed. Pachauri does disclose the various levels of functions that are displayed, wherein as stated in the claims, these elements from selectable and displayed based on the functions accessible by a particular user as is seen in Figure 12 (column 6, lines 29-32).

With respect to Applicant's arguments, that Brown does not disclose application initiation but mere navigation. The concept of navigation, wherein, the user would move from one type of application to another in a graphical user interface would require the initiation of a distinct element within the graphical user interface, in order so that the user may traverse from the current application to the one that is being requested, as seen in the banking system of Figure

11, wherein the user would choose from the "Transact" application element to the "Reports" element, to access the distinct applications represented by these elements.

With respect to Applicant's arguments, that Pachauri and Dabrowski are not related to each other's invention. Pachauri describes a system, wherein the user's access to the components displayed are based on the user's profile and tasks performed. The system refers to any kind of business related system, involving especially steps and processes that the user would take part in, as is shown in Pachauri, wherein distinct actions of users are determined to decided which action can be performed by which user, and the related display element is accessible to the user who fits a certain profile and can perform certain tasks. Dabrowski discloses a specific format of Pachauri's invention, in describing a gaming system, wherein also distinct steps and processes are involved wherein users would interact with the system to carry out certain functions, and certain functionalities are carried out by certain users.

With respect to Applicant's arguments, that Dabrowski does not teach a gaming system including gaming devices and user stations displaying graphical user interfaces. As clearly seen in Figures 1 and 13, Dabrowski does teach gaming device with a user station, that clearly displays the graphical user interface of Figure 1.

With respect to Applicant's arguments, that Brown is not related to the claimed invention, wherein a graphical user interface is not displayed based on station configuration or user profile. Brown clearly displays graphical user interface, and carrying out the process of a user's needs through this interface, an example of which is shown in Figure 11. As is also stated in Brown, these graphical user interfaces display to the users the elements, which are authorized to be accessed by the users, as, is needed in banking systems such as those in Figure 11. Brown

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clearly discloses that the elements displayed and offered to the users are based on the user's needs and desires, hence following the concept of basing the display on a user profile (column 9, lines 46-48).

With respect to Applicant's arguments, that Dabrowski does not teach a gaming system including gaming machines and user workstations where information is presented and input. As is shown in Figure 1, there is a means for users to interact through presentation and manipulation through a user interface. Dabrowski also shows gaming devices with the user workstation, with the user workstation represented in that, the user would perform the actions needed at that site, the site and device being shown in Figure 13.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (703) 305-7691. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7238 for regular communications and (703) 746-7240 for After Final Communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Namitha Pillai
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2173
September 10, 2003



JOHN CABECA
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